Media Release

Colonial Heights Police Department

An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

Major Robert L Ruxer III, Acting Chief of Police

100-A Highland Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834 (804)520-9300

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Colonial Heights Animal Services Investigates Animal Neglect

On February 28, 2022 Colonial Heights Animal Services, along with Hopewell Animal Services and Officers with the Colonial Heights Police Department executed a search warrant at 117 Buckingham Drive in the City of Colonial Heights in conjunction with an ongoing investigation into Animal Cruelty. Thirty-five canines were seized by Colonial Heights Animal Services including several which were pregnant and have had puppies while in the care of Colonial Heights Animal Services.

The owner of the canines was found to be Paula Sadler, a resident of Colonial Heights. The following criminal charges were placed on her:

1 charge of Felony Animal Cruelty Virginia Code 3.2-6570

15 charges of Misdemeanor Animal Cruelty Virginia Code 3.2-6570

15 charges of Inadequate Care for a Companion Animal Virginia Code 3.2-6503

Sadler was served with all warrants on March 17, 2022, and the criminal cases are pending trial on May 11, 2022.

On April 18, 2022, the Colonial Heights Circuit Court awarded custody of forty-one canines to Colonial Heights Animal Services along with ordering restitution for medical expenses, grooming and housing at the Colonial Heights Animal Shelter. Due to the extensive medical conditions of many of the canines, the majority of the canines have been placed with area rescue organizations.



Paula D Sadler 56 years of age

If you have information, but would like to remain anonymous, please contact Chesterfield/Colonial Heights Crime Solvers at (804)748-0660 or submit a tip using the mobile app